

Executive Department
Annapolis, Md.
Aug. 6th 1853

Recy of
State to
W. G. Mason
in relation
to
Scandell's
Application
for
Pardon

Richd. G. Mason Esq
States Attorney, &c &c.

Sir: Your letter of the 4th inst. was duly received by me, and I am directed by the Governor to say in reply, that your letter of the 12th Jan'y 1852 was entirely forgotten, until discovered to-day on the files. It came just at the opening of the first Session of the Legislature under the Governor's administration, and when he was over-run and harassed by Office Seekers & their friends. The pressure of business at the time prevented immediate attention to the application for the reprieve; and it was afterwards forgotten.

The Governor thinks (unless you have good reason for an opposite opinion) that it would be better to let the matter pass, as it is now of three year standing, and to open it would only tend to produce unnecessary excitement and perhaps unkind feelings between two friendly States. If, however you have reason to recommend a different course the Governor will be obliged to you for information and advice, which he will naturally consider before finally disposing of the matter. Under the circumstances he certainly will not grant Scandell's prayer for a full Pardon, or to say the least of it, he should suffer the punishment of perpetual banishment from, of which he complains so very sorely, and which he no doubt feels as a severe annulment & retribution for his Criminal Conduct towards the State.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Yrs
John Randolph Quinn
Secretary of State.

Edenton 9th August 1853

W. G. Mason
to Secy?
concerning
Scandell's
Application
for Pardon

J. R. Quinn Esq
Secretary of State.

Dear Sir: Your letter of the 6th instant was received yesterday. I had supposed that my letter to the Governor, in relation to the